

Remarks

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10-12, 15, 16, 19 and 26 have been amended. Claims 4, 5, 13, 14, 23, 25 and 28 have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-3, 6-12, 15-22, 24 and 26-27 are presented for examination.

In the Office Action, claims 26-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention, appearing to be comprised of software alone without claiming associated computer hardware required for execution, is not supported by either a specific and substantial asserted utility (i.e., transformation of data) or a well established utility (i.e., a practical application). Claim 26 has been amended to include associated computer hardware. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-4, 10-13, 19-24 and 26-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hollander et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,823,460) in view of Horiguchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,937,186).

Independent claims 1, 10, 19 and 26 have been amended to include the allowable limitations of claims 5, 14, and 25, as indicated by the Examiner. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 10, 19 and 26 and their dependant claims are patentable over the cited references.

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: April 22, 2005

Mark L. Watson
Reg. No. 46,322

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
7th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(303) 740-1980